



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

Website: www.millbaygardenclub.com Email: mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 2012

Next Meeting
September 25th, 2012



The September meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on Tuesday, September 25th at 7 PM at the Mill Bay Community League Hall - 1001 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road.

The doors open at 6:30 pm to provide you with the opportunity to check out the Club library and plant sale table, buy your raffle tickets, put your exhibits on the brag table and socialize. This is a great little garden club that is very social.

Please remember your **mug** and wear a **name tag**. A permanent name tag can be ordered through Gale McIntyre for \$10, which is payable when you order. Temporary name tags can be picked up from Mary Gale. Please return it at the end of the meeting. Wearing a name tag helps with the social side of the club which is important to all members.

September Brag Table Theme:
SEPTEMBER SEEDS

With plant and flower identification and commentary provided by Barb Kohlman, the Brag Table is a great part of our monthly meetings. It's a fun and interactive way to share what's going on in your garden without having 150 club members trying to find parking outside of your house. The bonus is a prize awarded randomly to one of the monthly participants in this program. If you've never participated, give it a fling, be it flower, vegetable or fungus

Kitchen Duties: Dianne Regan

Please remember to bring your mug for the break!

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER:
Jane Tice : Putting your garden to bed.



Ride Sharing

If you need a ride to and from MBGC meetings, please send your name, phone number and exact address to Mary Vandenberg at mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com. For privacy issues we will post your request in name and general location only (i.e. close to Kilmalu and Telegraph Roads). When a club member responds to the request, we will then provide that person with your phone number and exact address.

Presidents Report

Ajay Oppelaar

Another season is beginning for the Mill Bay Garden Club and we hope to see many of you at our meeting on September 25th.

At our first Executive meeting on September 11th, the Executive worked hard on a balanced budget that we will submit to the club for approval at our September 25th regular meeting. The club is in excellent financial shape and is on track to have another successful year.

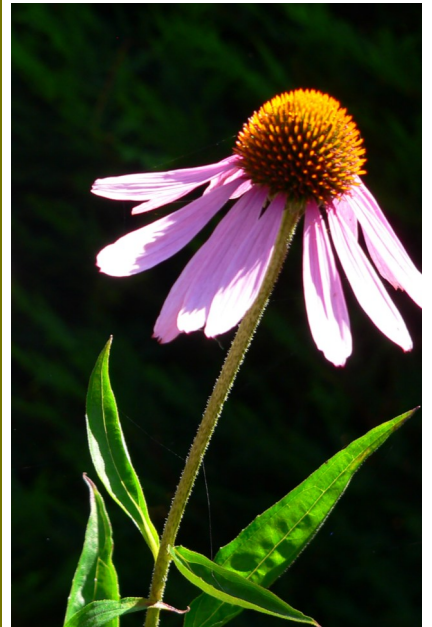
We will need some volunteers to help set up the hall and also a couple of people to help Dianne out in the kitchen during the break. If you have the time to help out, please be at the hall for 6:15 PM on the 25th. We will be circulating sign up sheets at the meeting to fill our needs for set up/break down/kitchen duties for this season.

A Community League Hall fall clean-up work party is scheduled for Saturday October 13th, 9-noon. We will have a sign up sheet for volunteers at the meeting. These work parties are usually more fun than hard work and are a good way to get to know fellow members outside of meetings.

The Executive has decided to remove the personal information of the Board and Committee from the website to protect everybody's privacy. We will continue to list our contact information in the newsletter and Mary will delete it before she sends it off to Kerry Davis for archiving.

The late season has left many of us with lots of perennials gone to seed that will scatter and sprout as volunteers in our gardens. We invite you to bring in some of those seeds to share with other members at the September meeting. I will be bringing in some Gaillardia 'Goblin' seed as well as some Kniphofia (red-hot poker) Belamcanda chinensis (blackberry lily) and Echinacea. These are all great for scattering or propagating in flats and pots. Even things like Hosta and day lily are well known for offering lots of seed this time of year, though most ripe seed goes to the birds! I even have some Phormium (New Zealand flax) which produced flowers this year and I've saved the seedpods to share with others.

(Continued on page 3)



President's Report cont'd

As always, if you would like to have a couple of minutes of Members Forum time to discuss any gardening related projects or activities, please contact me prior to the meeting so I can add you to the agenda.

If you have questions, comments or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me. The door is always open, the email is checked often and the phone is usually answered.

Membership Chair: Sandra Goth

Hello

I, Sandra Goth, am the new club member who is the Membership Chair not to be confused with Heather Gibbins who is the New Members Chair, but old (in the sense of club membership not chronology) club member.

I nearly ended up in the lock up on my way home from my first executive meeting. A very nice young RCMP officer stopped me because I was driving much slower than people usually drive on Cameron Taggart. We got on. Turns out he is an avid gardener and wanted to know if members had the female squash blossoms bloom late in the season. He assured me he is a self-pollinator.

If you send me the response I am happy to drop it, and my drivers license, off at the Shawnigan Lake detachment. I did encourage him to become a Mill Bay Gardening Club member. I think it helped me get off with just a warning for not having my license.

The first meeting of the season will be time to renew your registration, which would be with me, Sandra Goth, not Heather Gibbins unless you are a new member.

Cont'd>

A reminder the Club is appropriately going green so please bring your crisp \$10.00 bill as I will not have a float and a coffee or tea cup for refreshments.

I look forward to meeting you as I am sure there will be a throng of people there to re-register and send on their advice to the lovely young officer who mistook me for a drunk.

Sandra Goth
Membership Chair



Deadline for submissions to the October newsletter is Sunday, October 14, 2012.

Gardening Tips

Barb Kohlman, Past President

Mill Bay Garden Club Tips October
2012

Direct seed some radishes – cover in November, also spinach.

Use the base of an old barbecue grill as a potting bench by removing the grill itself and position a wide wooden plank across the opening. Along the frame you can attach hooks for tools. The bottom shelf can hold bags of soil and other supplies. Keep it in the garage and roll it out for use.

Trees for fall colour: *Acer rubrum* 'Red Sunset', *Almelanchier x grandiflora* 'Autumn Brilliance', *Acer palmatum dissectum* 'Viridis', *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*.

Fall is a good season for planting in the PNW – you won't have to water because the skies take care of it for you. Some perennials to choose: *Heuchera* 'Green Spice', *Geranium* 'Rozanne', *Stipa arundinaceae*, *Iris douglasiana* (Pacific Coast iris) and for the iris, Elaine recommends cutting all foliage down in early spring to encourage plenty of fresh new growth for the season.

Plants for pathways: *Thymus* spp., *T. pseudolanuginosis* (wooly thyme) is a favourite of mine. *Veronica repens*, *Soleirolia soleirolii* (Baby's tears), *Mentha requienii* (Corsican mint). NOT *Pratia pedunculata* (Blue star creeper) – it is soooooo invasive.

Lawns: shear to about 1½ inches, aerate and add a ½" layer of compost over the entire lawn---try not to miss doing this!

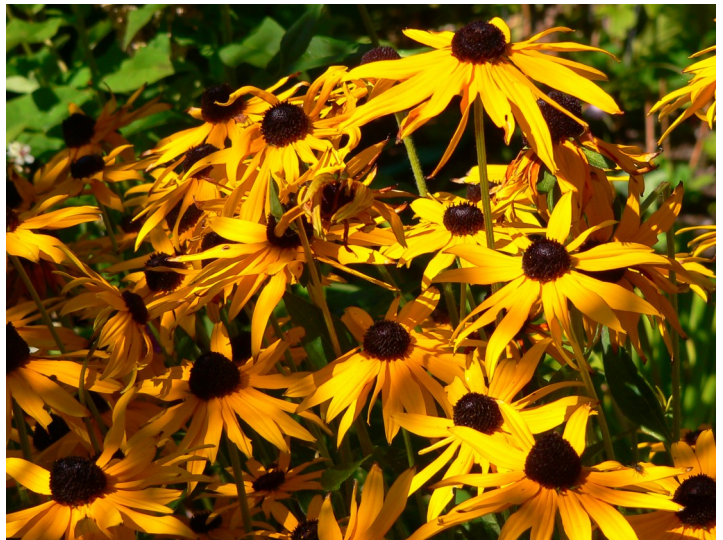
Trees and shrubs: water evergreens well till rains start, especially rhodos as they are forming next years' flower buds. Clean up

rose leaves and debris to prevent overwintering diseases.

Ponds: cut back overgrown pond plants.

Compost: create new piles from materials being removed from the garden.

Cheers Barb Kohlman



Garden Club Plant Sale Committee


Elaine Scott, Chair

On behalf of the Mill Bay Garden Club Plant Sale Committee, I would like to thank all of those many members who donated plants, helped with the plant sale and bought plants. This money goes a long way to assisting the Club support worthwhile gardening related projects and, hence, furthers our community-based activities. Thank you one and all. Elaine Scott, Chair, Mill Bay Garden Club Plant Sale Committee.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mixing it Up in the Urban Garden 2013

Fresh ideas & expertise for new & seasoned gardeners

 Keynote Speaker

Rosalind Creasy
Edible Landscaping

You can have your gorgeous garden & eat it too!

 Local Experts Speak

From the Ground Up

- Getting Dirty: Soils (Ted Baker)
- Starting with Seeds (Full Circle Seeds)
- Good Bugs, Bad Bugs (Linda Gilkeson)
- Fruit Trees from A-Z (Clay Whitney)

PLUS

Silent Auction, Local Vendors & Resources
Delicious Food

Saturday, January 26, 2013

8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney, B.C.

COST: Before Nov. 1st only \$55
After Nov. 1st – \$65

Great value! Includes lunch & breaks

Information and Registration
www.mgabc.org (Victoria Chapter)



**Victoria Master
Gardener Association**

Mixing it Up... Program

Fruit Trees from A to Z

Clay Whitney – BC Fruit Testers

Clay is a self-professed fruit addict! He specializes in all aspects of fruit growing, including custom grafting, pruning, and revitalizing heritage fruit trees. He has a keen interest in incorporating edibles into existing landscapes. www.bcfta.ca

Starting with Seeds

Full Circle Seeds

Full Circle Seeds have been offering open-pollinated, untreated seed grown without herbicides, pesticides or synthetic fertilizers since 1993. All the seeds come true year after year and the plants are well adapted for the ecosystem of the Pacific Northwest. www.fullcircleseeds.com

Break: Refreshments, Vendors, Resources and Silent Auction Sign-Up

Getting Dirty: Soils

Ted Baker – Ph.D in Forest Soils

Ted Baker grew up in Alberta and has farmed and/or gardened for most of his life. Ted, also known as the Iris King, loves growing, showing and enjoying plants! Before retirement, he worked in the Research Branch of the Ministry of Forests for over 25 years. Ted's 20-acre Salt Spring garden regularly receives collectors, photographers and artists from around the world.

Lunch

Good Bugs, Bad Bugs

Linda Gilkeson – Ph.D in Entomology

Linda is a regular instructor in the Master Gardener programs in BC and is busy year-round giving workshops on pest management & gardening. Her newest book, *Backyard Bounty: The Complete Guide to Year-Round Organic Gardening in the Pacific Northwest* is now available. www.lindagilkeson.ca

Break: Refreshments, Vendors, Resources and Silent Auction Sign-Up

Edible Landscaping

Rosalind Creasy – Keynote speaker

Rosalind is a garden and food writer, photographer, and landscape designer with a passion for beautiful vegetables and ecologically sensitive gardening. Recently awarded a 2011 American Horticulture Society Book Award for her best-selling book *Edible Landscaping*. Rosalind resides in Northern California. www.rosalindcreasy.com

Silent Auction Winners and Wind-up

Visit www.mgabc.org (Victoria Chapter)

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Christmas Floral Fantasy

FESTIVE HOLIDAY HOMES

Friday November 2nd
& Saturday November 3rd
10am – 5pm



- >>> Inspired designs for the festive season
- >>> Free demos of floral gifts
- >>> Boutique with supplies
- >>> Tea room with dainties



amazing floral artistry

Cadboro Bay United Church | 2625 Arbutus Road (Victoria) | Admission \$8

For more information contact: Helen Coullcott helenbertc@shaw.ca 250.655.1524



Contributed by Victoria Flower Arrangers Guild

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS:

The Victoria Hardy Plant group is thrilled to host James Alexander-Sinclair for an entertaining lecture – Dancing with Borders.

Mr. Alexander-Sinclair was elected to the Council of the Royal Horticulture Society in 2011. He writes for England's best garden magazines and has designed show gardens for the Chelsea Flower Show , the Westonbirt International Festival of the Garden and has designed gardens, large and small, from the South of France to the Western isles.

Join us for a very entertaining lecture on October 14th, 2012, at 3 pm at the Salvation Army Citadel, 4030 Douglas St., Victoria, BC. Tickets are available at all Dig This Stores in Victoria and at the door at a cost of \$15.00.

Contributed by Victoria Hardy Plant Group

VICTORIA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

The latest Out & About for September has just been posted to our website <http://www.mgabc.org/content/out-and-about-0> Please take a moment to check out the exciting events. Thanks.

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB MARKET PLACE



- A neighbour of Elaine Scott's has a supply of wine corks that can be used in plant pots to minimize the amount of soil required in the pot and lighten the pot. If you are interested please contact Elaine Scott.
- Anyone wanting free clean wine bottles please contact Elaine Scott . Will need to provide your own cardboard box to transport the bottles in.

ScentSational Plants—40% off Sale

August 25 to Sunday , September 30. Please advise your members that for the month of September, Scent-Sational Plants Nursery, 830 Sayward Road, Victoria, (658-3544) will be having a 40 % off sale on most of our plants. We have a great selection of shrubs, vines, perennials and trees. Open Thurs-Mon 9-5 . Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays.